

13 Feb

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A GENERAL STATE
OF THE
WHITEHAVEN DISPENSARY,
FOR THE YEAR 1795.

AT a Period when the lower Orders of Society, so far from being able to procure the COMFORTS, can scarce obtain the NECESSARIES of LIFE, an INSTITUTION, calculated to variously and certainly prevent, alleviate, or remove their greatest Calamities, must appear peculiarly eligible; and recommend itself from Inducements the most cogent and persuasive; not only to the Continuance of that Liberality with which it has been fortunately long distinguished, but also to the Approbation of those who have not yet honoured it with their Patronage and Support.

THE Man of Opulence, thus fulfilling the purest Dictates, and indulging the highest Gratifications of his Nature, will
A become

become the Man of not less exalted than exquisite HUMANITY. Actuated by the genuine Impulse of Charitable Benevolence, he then applies the TALENTS providentially allotted him to the Purpose which can assuredly render them actual Blessings,—the *Relief of Sickness*, remarkably aggravated by that extreme Indigence which the past and present Seasons of distressful Scarcity unhappily occasion.

IN Compliance with the usual Mode of arranging the *Objects*, and particularizing the Engagements of this CHARITY, it may be eligible to announce the STATE of those DISEASES which especially solicited its various curative, or palliative, Attentions.

THE first EPIDEMIC of the *Spring* was the MEASLES. Two Children, suffering the Disease in its mildest Form, were brought from *Newcastle*, in *May*, to a confined and uncomfortable Situation; but their almost immediate Recovery and Removal prevented its becoming an interesting Malady.

This specific Contagion could not have had a very extensive, nor powerful Influence, as it generally prevailed in 1793; and the temperate Warmth of the approaching Season would have obviated that Tendency to Inflammation, or its destructive Consequences: to which, as a principal Source of Danger and Solitude, our Medical Indications are chiefly, if not solely, directed.

THE next, and most important, Diseases which appeared were FEVERS of the *Nervous* Type; sometimes assuming, in their terminating Stages, a putrid Tendency. Thirty Cases have been admitted, at different Periods, in the Course of



of this Year. Several, introduced from *Ireland*, or the interior Parts of this County, (long infested by Maladies of the most deleterious Nature) were always tediously painful in their Progress, and oft destructive in their Event; requiring the assiduous Employment of the usual Antidotes and Preventives to their general Communication.

THE deplorable Condition of a Family in *Tangier-street*, during the Autumn, may be here particularly noticed.

THE Husband, Seven Children, (the Youngest Six Months old) his Wife, and a Lodger, suffered the Contagion. To the two latter (no Attendance nor regular Exhibition of Medicine being obtainable) it unhappily proved fatal; the former recovering under very unfavourable Circumstances.

THE baneful Malignancy of this Disease, which excited highly alarming Apprehensions, was certainly imputable to a total Inattention to Cleanliness and clear Ventilation. Eight Persons in the Neighbourhood, from the imprudent Practice of visiting the Sick, were afterwards seized with it; and, had not a Nurse-keeper, with great Difficulty and at considerable Expence, been then procured, to constantly wait upon the Patients and put in Execution every requisite PROPHYLACTIC MEASURE, this FEVER might have been, in its Prevalency and Ravages, similar to that pestilential Contagion which, in 1757, * distressfully occupied the same Situation; and from thence, generally diffused, continued to long and virulently prevail.

* Consult Dr. BROWNRIGG's ingenious Treatise upon "The Means of preventing the Communication of the Plague,"—Page 36.

THE

THE Utility of the Treatment, recommended in the last ANNUAL REPORT, was very apparent : a mild EMETIC being always prescribed upon the first Attack, or in the early Periods of Disease ; and the Cure afterwards remitted to the frequent and copious Administration of the BARK in its various Forms of Decoction, Tincture, Extract, or Powder. OPIATES, to allay general Inquietude, or any particular Irritation, especially in the Bowels, were occasionally requisite. The Regimen was strictly governed. Pure Air, oft admitted, with moderately stimulant, acidulated Beverages, and the liberal Employment of Port Wine.

THE SCARLET FEVER, with young and delicate People, especially *Females*, a prevalent and dangerous Distemper, has not lately required the Aids of this Charity. The few Cases, admitted since *June* last, were chiefly very indigent Children ; and, except in one Instance of Fatality, (where the Patient, when first attended to, displayed every Character of expiring Langour and Putrescency) scarce any Medical Assistance was necessary. Proper Care has always been taken to mitigate the Virulency of the Contagion ; the best Means of Experience being diligently employed to interrupt its Progress in the Neighbourhood, and with much greater Success than could have been expected, considering the close and uncleanly Places it mostly occupied.

THE Cases of Small Pox, Hooping Cough, and Dysentery, were by no Means numerous, and for the most Part so trivial as seldom to require any active professional Assistance. The former, introduced from *Dublin* and *Southampton Camp*, into certain populous Situations, repeatedly occurred in *September*, *November*, and *January* last : but, as the Contagion had powerfully

erfully raged the two preceding Years, it could not be supposed to very generally obtain.

RELATIVE to the State of our CHRONIC DISEASES, the constant Prevalence of moist Weather, during the Whole of the Winter, rarely induced the violent Symptoms of ASTHMA, or RHEUMATISM. These Disorders were consequently few and favourable. If, however, remarkably aggravated by Age and Debility, stimulant, sudorific, or tonic Remedies could always mitigate their Urgency, or sometimes suspend and prevent their immediate Influence and Effects.

SUCH is the *Medical* State of this Charity : To the *Surgical*, more manifestly contributing to the Relief of its Objects, we advert with singular Satisfaction. Labour, conducive to Health, rarely excites internal Diseases : hence the inferior Class of People, supported by their daily assiduous Endeavours, chiefly suffer from that Variety and Poignancy of external Injury which Temerity or Accident oft, and sometimes unavoidably, occasion : it must, in Consequence, be very apparent that Applications from this ample Source of immediate and exquisite Distress will most frequently occur. The several Register Admissions, with the numerous List of Trivial Cases, (beneficially attended to as anticipating and preventing greater Evils) are positive Proofs of this Assertion.

WE may, in this Place, very properly refer to the SYSTEM-ATIC ARRANGEMENT of the Patients, subjoined to the ANNUAL REPORT, and especially to that Head of Local Affections distinguished by *English* Characters, rather as a Species than Genus of Disease. The POPLITEAL ANEURISM, here alluded to, was not, in its Cause, Circumstances, Pro-

gress, and Urgency more extraordinary than successful in its Event.

THE Gentlemen, to whom it has been particularly remitted must, upon this Occasion, indulge a peculiar Gratification. In rescuing a deserving Fellow Creature from a Fate which, however painfully protracted, inevitably awaited him, they have conferred an eminent Honour upon this Country, and especially upon the DISPENSARY. The Annals of Surgery can now annex this remarkable Case, * and the ingenious novel Operation it admitted, to those accurately recorded by the celebrated Mr. HUNTER, its original Proposer.

RESPECTING the Subject of *Suspended Animation*, we have only to repeat our Acknowledgments, for the various Instructions and Communications frequently transmitted from the REGISTER of the ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY. Though no recent Instance of this deplorable State has required them, it must be highly satisfactory to have it in our Power to immediately administer the Means which Experience and Judgment approve, and recommend.

UNDER the Auspices and Sanction of the Respectable and Opulent, the principal Scope and Design of this Charity, in averting the Apprehensions of Disease, and removing it from the Abodes of Poverty have been, during a Period of thirteen Years, fully accomplished. In this Regard, each Motive of Policy accords with each Feeling of Humanity, and pleads for the present Support, future Permanency, and general Extension of so useful an Institution. It must, however, be acknowledged,

* The PARTICULARS of this Case will be published in the next ANNUAL REPORT of this Charity.

ledged, that the Disbursements exceed the Annual Receipts : the Price of Medicines being very much enhanced, and the Number of Subscribers and Benefactors diminished : Of the latter, the liberal Donor of the DISPENSARY, for nine Years past, justly claims the affectionate Tribute of our grateful Remembrance. We cannot but deplore that Loss which this CHARITY has sustained in the Death of One who, from its original Establishment, exclusive of a most generous Contribution, has always strenuously endeavoured to promote its Interest, and recommend it to public Approbation.

HAVING detailed the various Motives, Obligations, and Concernments of this DISPENSARY, it may be suitably intimated,

THAT they who thus alleviate the Sorrows, and aid in the Comforts of the Indigent, will possess the peculiar Felicity which ever attends the Success of such laudable and arduous Endeavours. They have exemplified the just Observation, " That human Power and human Wealth are a ready and " sufficient Fund for human Want and Weakness."—May, therefore, an uninterrupted Continuance of all temporal Blessings long be theirs!—May that Health, conveyed to Others by this Mean of Beneficence, become its invaluable, well merited Reward :—And, finally, when this our eventful Scene is about to close, may each Labour of Charity fail not to graciously supply them with Reflections and Assurances the most complacent and satisfactory!

An ACCOUNT of the PATIENTS admitted, from
JUNE 8, 1795, to JUNE 13, 1796.

Recommended and Registered, (of whom 695 were attended in their own Habitations)	1862
Midwifery Cafes	66
Trivial Incidents	1498
	3426
Patients remaining upon the Books, June 8, 1795,	213
	3639

The STATE of the REGISTERS.

Cured	1750
Relieved	51
Incurable.	32
Dead	26
Remain upon the Books	216
	2075
	Total

Total Number of PATIENTS admitted since the
Institution of this CHARITY, *June 30, 1783.*

In 1783 . . .	2057	
In 1784 . . .	2644	
In 1785 . . .	3034	
In 1786 . . .	2708	
In 1787 . . .	2521	Cured . . . 21184
In 1788 . . .	2129	Relieved . . . 697
In 1789 . . .	5996	Incurable . . . 283
In 1790 . . .	3721	Irregular . . . 26
In 1791 . . .	2672	Dead . . . 636
In 1792 . . .	2806	Remain on the Books 216
In 1793 . . .	3248	
In 1794 . . .	3589	
In 1795 . . .	3426	
	<u>40551</u>	<u>23042</u>

The Number of Patients admitted (as by the
preceding List) 40551

Registered Patients	23042
Midwifery Objects	1102
Trivial Cases	16407
	<u>Total 40551</u>

C

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Mr. Henry Dixon	1 1	0	Rev. James Kirkpatrick	1 1	0
Mr. Peter Dixon	1 1	0	Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick	0 5	0
Joshua Dixon, M. D.	1 1	0			
Carried forward £. 27 10 0			Carried forward £. 52 12 6		

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Brought over £. 52 12 6				Brought over £. 79 7 6			
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Mr. Ebenezer Reed 0 5 0				Mr. Jonathan Wills 0 5 0			
Mr. John Richardson 0 5 0				Y.			
S.				Mr. Peter How Younger . . . 1 1 0			
J. T. Senhouse, Esq. Calder-				Total Subscriptions £. 96 2 0			
Abbey 2 2 0				In the Charity Box 1 14 5			
Mr. Alexander Spittall 1 1 0							
Mr. G. Stalker, Millgrove . 1 1 0							
Carried forward £. 79 7 6				Carried forward £. 97 16 5			

DISBURSEMENTS, &c.

Brought over £. 97 16 5			DISBURSEMENTS.		
Cash Lent	. . .	100 0 0	Drugs and Medicines	£. 44	6 9
Interest of Do.	. . .	5 0 0	Midwifery Expences	8	17 6
Balance with the Treasurer			Printing and Stationary	7	9 8
last Year	. . .	35 8 8½	Wine		4 12 6
			Spirit for Tinctures	. . .	2 8 0
Total	£. 238	5 1¼	Coals, Candles, Attendance,		
Disbursements	. 121	4 6	Nurse-keeper, Herbs, Phi-		
			als, Carriage of Drugs,		
			Leather, Leeches, and		
			fundry small Articles	13	0 1
			Apothecary's Salary and		
			Gratuity		40 10 0
Balance in Favour	} £. 117	0 7¼	Total	£. 121	4 6
of the Charity					

New Subscriptions are thus marked †

SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in at the TREASURER's; at Mr. WARE's PRINTING OFFICE; and at the DISPENSARY.

Blank Letters of Recommendation may be had at the Dispensary.

All Persons who are disposed to contribute by WILL to this CHARITY, are requested to do it in the following Manner :

" I give and bequeath to A. B. and C. D. the Sum of
upon trust that they do pay the same to the TREASURER of the Whitehaven
Dispensary : which Sum of I desire may be applied
owards carrying on the benevolent Designs of the said CHARITY."

All

All Persons, desirous of settling any real Estate or Money to be laid thereon, or Money in the Funds, for the Benefit of this Charity, are requested to observe that it cannot be done by WILL, on Account of the Act of Parliament of the 9th Geo. 2. c. 36. by which it is enacted " That no Lands, or Tenements, or Money to be laid out thereon, shall be given for, or charged with, any Charitable Uses whatsoever, unless by DEED indented, executed in the Presence of Two Witnesses Twelve Calendar Months before the Death of the Donor, and enrolled in the Court of Chancery within Six Months after its Execution, (except Stocks in the Public Funds, which may be transferred within Six Months previous to the Donor's Death) and unless such Gift be made to take Effect immediately, and be without Power of Revocation. And that all other Gifts shall be void.

A short ABSTRACT from the RULES.

The peculiar Objects of this Charity are the sick and lame Poor, who can derive no Benefit from any similar Institution.

The Persons coming accurately under the above Description are to be admitted by a Letter of Recommendation, signed by a Subscriber, and addressed to the medical Officers of the Dispensary. In Case, however, of Accidents, or very urgent Affections, where delay may be attended with dangerous Consequences, proper Objects will receive Assistance, upon Application, without a Letter of Recommendation.

That proper Objects, when affected with Trivial Diseases, receive the Benefits of this Charity without any recommendation.

OFFICERS

OFFICERS for the YEAR 1796.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Honourable James Earl of Lonsdale.

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John Christian Curwen, Esq.—Anthony Benn, Esq.
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Joshua Dixon, M. D.—Henry Crosthwaite, M. D.

John Hamilton Esq.—Mr. Joseph Harris, Surgeon.

PHYSICIAN.

Joshua Dixon, M. D.

SURGEON EXTRAORDINARY.

John Hamilton, Esq.

SURGEONS.

Messrs. Harris and Crosthwaite.

APOTHECARY.

Mr. Jacob Maxwell.



A SYSTEMATIC ARRANGEMENT OF THE PRECEDING DISEASES, WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE EVENTS.

	Under 2 Years.	Between 2 and 5 Years.	5 and 10	10 and 15	15 and 20	20 and 30	30 and 40	40 and 50	50 and 60	60 and 70	70 and 80	80 and 90	Cured.	Relieved.	Incurable.	Dead.	Remaining upon the Books.	Total.
I. FEBRILE DISEASES.																		
Intermittent Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Nervous Fever	0	1	2	7	2	0	9	3	4	0	0	0	28	0	0	2	0	30
Worm Fever	9	25	104	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	176	0	0	0	0	181
External Inflammation	2	4	4	15	15	16	14	11	6	6	1	0	84	0	0	0	10	94
Gangrene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Inflammation of Eyes	0	8	24	15	7	9	15	3	4	2	1	0	76	0	0	0	11	87
Inflammatory Sore Throat	0	2	1	3	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	16
Croup	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Inflammation of the Lungs	1	2	2	3	1	1	5	4	0	1	0	0	18	0	0	1	2	21
Inflammation of the Bowels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Acute Rheumatism	0	0	0	0	2	7	33	9	3	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	4	54
Chronic Rheumatism	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6	5	1	0	7	4	0	0	4	15
Inflammatory Eruptions	0	2	10	15	24	13	24	6	6	4	0	0	87	0	0	0	18	105
Erysipelas	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Natural Small Pox	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8
Scarlet Fever	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	4
Hæmorrhages	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	3	2	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
Consumption	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	7
Fluor Albus	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	5
Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	6
After Pains	0	0	0	0	1	25	8	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	1	34
Catarrh	0	0	1	3	5	7	9	6	2	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	1	33
Dysentery	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	4
II. NERVOUS DISEASES.																		
Head Ach	0	0	0	2	4	8	10	5	1	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	1	30
Palsy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Fainting	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Indigestion	0	0	0	3	16	45	64	41	3	0	0	0	158	1	0	0	13	172
Flatulency	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	0	0	11	75
Convulsions	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Epilepsy	0	0	0	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	2	7
Asthma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	4	1	1	1	15	1	1	19	39
Hooping Cough	1	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	1	10
Colic	0	0	0	1	0	10	15	12	0	3	0	0	43	0	0	1	2	46
Diarrhæa	0	0	5	2	4	4	10	7	5	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	37
Melancholy	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hysteria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
III. DISEASES of the HABIT.																		
Chronic Weakness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	6
Droopy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	6	12
Scrophula	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	6
Lues Venerea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
IV. LOCAL DISEASES.																		
Poptireal Ancurism	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Gravel	0	0	1	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1	0	1	2	11
Cancer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rupture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Scorbutic Eruptions	0	27	34	39	12	14	22	16	4	0	0	0	107	0	0	0	64	171
Scald Head	0	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	6
Jaundice	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Wounds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	0	0	0	4	105
Contusions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	0	0	1	1	151
Ulcers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	10	0	14	42
Fractures	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
Sprains	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	1	41
Burns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	104	0	0	0	6	110
Abcesses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	1	36
Total	38	136	224	224	224	224	222	187	82	45	15	0	1578	32	15	21	216	1862

A Tabular Statement of the Continued Fever Cases, from June 30, 1783, to June 9, 1796.

	Under 2 Years.	Between 2 and 5 Years.	5 & 10	10 & 15	15 & 20	20 & 30	30 & 40	40 & 50	50 & 60	60 & 70	70 & 80	Cured.	Dead.	Total.
1783	5	10	9	4	18	18	10	4	4	3	2	75	1	76
1784	20	42	64	47	49	49	60	49	19	9	8	401	9	410
1785	8	42	71	48	48	48	40	5	21	1	0	350	20	370
1786	0	0	0	10	16	16	18	20	6	1	0	91	6	97
1787	0	0	0	1	6	6	1	5	3	2	0	21	1	22
1788	0	0	0	6	10	10	6	9	1	0	0	53	7	60
1789	0	0	13	18	19	19	15	13	6	0	0	103	2	105
1790	2	19	42	58	39	7	48	27	12	1	1	288	21	309
1791	3	0	6	7	9	1	13	15	5	2	1	74	5	79
1792	0	0	2	1	8	1	1	4	1	0	0	17	2	19
1793	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	7	3	10
1794	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	13	1	14
1795	0	1	2	2	0	0	9	4	4	0	0	28	2	30
Total	38	136	224	207	224	224	222	187	82	45	15	1521	80	1601